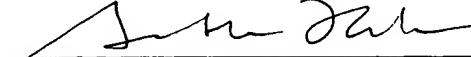




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Gunther O. Hanke, Reg. No. 32,989

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/650,558
Applicant : Timothy SIMON
Filed : August 28, 2003
Art Unit : 3738
Examiner : Hieu Phan

Docket No.: : CHOND.65022
Customer No. : 27629

Mail Stop: Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action of June 4, 2004, consideration of the following remarks is respectfully requested. Claims 17-20 remain pending. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-17 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-11 of U.S. Patent 6,626,945. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-16 had been canceled in the preliminary amendment that had concurrently been submitted with the application. Additionally, it is to be noted that claim 17 is directed to a different species of the invention than that which is claimed in the allowed parent case to the extent that a mechanical joining of the